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## LOYALIST YEMENIS BATTLE SOVIET-ARMED NASSER FORCES

SENATOR THOMAS J. DODD: My guest is Mr. Bushrod Howard, a registered agent of the loyalist government of Yemen. Mr. Howard has spent the past 20 years in the Middle East, and he knows not only its languages and its customs, but also the national aspirations of the people who represent all the different countries there.

Since September, 1962, when Nasser backed Yemeni forces attempting to violently overthrow the legal government of Yemen, Mr. Howard has served as an official advisor to the country's deposed king, who, with his loyal tribesmen, has in the course of three years, managed to fight Nasser's army of aggression to a standstill. Last August a truce was finally declared, and Nasser agreed to withdraw from Yemen his 50,000 Soviet-supplied troops. Mr. Howard, can you tell us what has happened since then?

HOWARD: Yemen is in the southwest corner of the Arabian peninsula. If Nasser were to control Yemen, he would inevitably be able to obtain control of Saudi Arabia, and with its oil, instant riches. Nasser has, in fact, increased his army to some 75,000, and gives no indication of withdrawing. Indeed, in December and January, there have been a number of Egyptian air raids and attacks on the royalist positions. While the truce hasn't completely failed, we have no indication from any source or any observation, that Nasser is going to withdraw.

DODD: Why are the Soviets so interested in Yemen, Mr. Howard?

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HOWARD: It is Yemen's geographic position. Saudi Arabia, as you know, has never permitted any Soviet planes or ships to call or use their ports or airfields, and from Yemen, where they have built one of the largest air fields in the middle east, they can not only subvert the Aden position of the British, but it constitutes a link for them to East Africa and to India and Pakistan.

Beyond that, they have built a large submarine base in the Yemeni Red Sea port of Hodata, from which they can support, supply, and repair submarines for use in the Indian ocean, and to observe and potentially to close the Red Sea end of the Suez Canal.

DODD: Thank you, Mr. Bushrod Howard.

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